

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 05838 280356Z

46

ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-10

AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04

OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 L-03 HEW-02 H-02

BIB-01 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-03 DIWY-01 CU-02

OIC-02 SAM-01 SR-02 ORM-01 INT-05 AGR-05 MMS-01 /151 W

----- 097276

R 271801Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4308

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 05838 280356Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 05838

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ICFTU

SUBJECT: JUNE 26 - 27 ICFTU EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

SUMMARY: EXECUTIVE BOARD OF INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (ICFTU) MET BRUSSELS JUNE 26-27 TO PREPARE FOR WORLD CONGRESS IN MEXICO CITY OCTOBER 17-25. BOARD ALSO APPROVED ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP FOR RESTRUCTURING LATIN AMERICAN ORGANIZATION (ORTI). IT APPROVED VISIT OF ICFTU SEC GEN KERSTEN TO EGYPT JULY 27 - AUGUST 1 AND CONSIDERED PROBLEMS IN ETHIOPIA, AND SOUTH AFRICA, PLEDGED ASSISTANCE TO TRADE UNIONS IN ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE AND DISCUSSED DEVELOPMENTS IN AISA AND PORTUGAL. BOARD ALSO REAFFIRMED "VIENNA POSITION ON CONTACTS WITH COMMUNIST ORGANIZATIONS".

1. AT PRESS CONFERENCE ON JUNE 27 PRIOR TO LAST SESSION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD, KERSTEN OUTLINED PREPARATIONS FOR ICFTU CONGRESS. HE SAID MAIN QUESTIONS WOULD BE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION, PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION TO REGULATE MULTI-NATIONAL COMPANIES, INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY AND EQUAL RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN. IN CONJUNCTION WITH UNESCO, ICFTU WILL SPONSOR SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN'S QUESTIONS IN MEXICO CITY PRIOR TO CONGRESS.

2. KERSTEN SAID THAT FOLLOWING REPORT ON SPECIAL MISSION TO LATIN AMERICA, IT HAD BEEN DECIDED TO SET UP "WORKING PARTY" TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS OF RESTRUCTURING LATIN AMERICAN ORGANIZATION (ORTI)". WORKING PARTY WOULD BE COMPOSED OF AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA, LATIN AMERICA, AND CARIBBEAN AND WOULD "LEAVE OPEN DOOR" TO AFL-CIO PARTICIPATION IN RESTRUCTURING. HE SAID IT UP TO WORKING PARTY TO DETERMINE HOW DOOR WOULD BE LEFT OPEN. ASSISTANT SEC GEN VANDERVEKEN TOLD US WORKING PARTY WILL BE COMPOSED OF SEVEN EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS FROM WESTERN HEMISPHERE. TERMS OF REFERENCE AND PROCEDURE NOT YET ESTABLISHED FOR THIS GROUP.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, KERSTEN SAID HE HAD BEEN INVITED VISIT EGYPT BY EGYPTIAN WORKER DELEGATION AT ILO CONFERENCE. ICFTU EXECUTIVE BOARD HAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED VISIT JULY 27 - LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 05838 280356Z

AUGUST 1 TO CONTRIBUTE TO DETENTE AND PEACE IN REGION. IN RESPONSE TO SUBSEQUENT QUESTION, KERSTEN SAID HE WOULD TAKE UP HISTADRUT CALL FOR ICFTU SUPPORT FOR ISRAELI USE OF SUEZ CANAL DURING HIS MEETINGS WITH EGYPTIAN LEADERS WITH PURPOSE OF STARTING DIALOGUE ON THIS QUESTION. OTHER QUESTIONS CONSIDERED BY EXECUTIVE BOARD ARE CONTINUED IMPRISONMENT OF ETHIOPIAN TRADE UNION LEADERS, CAMPAIGN TO STOP MIGRATION OF WORKERS IN SOUTH AFRICA, ASSISTANCE TO FREE TRADE UNIONS IN ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE,

RECENT TRADE UNION DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL AND
CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ASIA INCLUDING PROBLEM OF CEYLON
TEA WORKERS AND POLITICAL SITUATION IN INDIA.

4. EXECUTIVE BOARD ALSO RE-CONFIRMED POSITION IT ADOPTED
AT VIENNA CONGRESS IN 1963 ON CONTACTS WITH COMMUNIST TRADE UNIONS.
BILATERAL CONTACTS BETWEEN UNIONS PERMISSIBLE, BUT ICFTU WILL
CONTINUE LIMIT ITS CONTACTS TO
PARTICIPATION IN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WHERE COMMON
WORKER CONSULTATIONS ARE NECESSARY.

5. EXECUTIVE BOARD ALSO ACCEPTED AFFILIATION OF ARGENTINE
GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (CGT), WHICH NOW ITS THIRD
LARGEST AFFILIATE; GENERAL LEAGUE OF WORKERS OF ANGOLA; PAPUA,
NEW GUINEA TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION AND FOUR SEPARATE LEBANESE
TRADE UNIONS.

6. JOINT WORKING PARTY OF ICFTU AND WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR
MET JUNE 24-25 TO STUDY WAYS TO DEVELOP COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO
ORGANIZATIONS AND FIND WAYS AND MEANS FOR THEIR UNIFICATION. THEY
AGREED SET UP SMALLER WORKING GROUP "(FIVE MEMBERS FROM EACH ORGAN-
IZATIONS)". IN ONE YEAR'S TIME IT WILL PRESENT REPORT ON
STEPS TO UNIFICATION.
THIS DECISION WAS APPROVED BY ICFTU EXECUTIVE BOARD. RENNER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, LABOR UNIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRUSSE05838
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750224-0852
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975067/aaaaafnv.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SIL
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JUNE 26 - 27 ICFTU EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING SUMMARY: EXECUTIVE BOARD OF INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE
TAGS: ELAB, ICFTU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006